

# I WAS A CATHOLIC NUN



**By Sis. Angela Medlin**  
formerly  
**Sister Mary Denise**

My name is Angela Medlin and this is my personal testimony of how my search for God finally lead me to the knowledge of the revelation of God in Christ.

I was raised from birth a strict Roman Catholic and educated at St. Peters Parochial School in Montgomery Indiana. I loved the Lord even as a child and had developed a strong desire to get much closer to my God by entering the Sister of the Holy Family of Nazareth Convent in September 1952. The Holy Family of Nazareth convent is the Polish order whose main mother house is in Rome Italy. At this point in my life, my search for God caused me to feel this was God's will even though I was only 18 years old.

It was the beginning of my senior year that I decided to become a Postulant. After graduation in June, myself along with six other postulants left Holy Family Academy to go to the mother house in Des Plains, Illinois. It was during this time that I was made to realize that my search for God was not being fulfilled. During a ceremonial service, I received my first veil and was asked to denounce all my worldly goods and possessions.

My name was changed from Angela Newton to Sister Mary Denise. Two years were required as a novice to be worthy of my black veil. The Sisters were good to me and my family as long as I did not question the church doctrine or to make any decisions on my own. We began to study Theology and the doctrines of the Church. My desire had been to work in the nursing field in one of the hospitals.

Being cloistered, which means no association with the outside world, we were told that we should constantly be in deep meditation, many questions concerning the Godhead and the teachings of the Catholic Church began to trouble me. I grew unhappy and began to realize this was not what I wanted and was not what I had been searching for. There was a deep empty feeling in my soul and I desperately wanted to find the answers.

It was during these times of soul searching that certain questions weighed heavy on my mind, so I approached my Sister Sub-Mistress about the possibility of leaving the convent. She was very dismayed with me and tried hard to convince me to continue my studies and

ignore the questions in my mind because the doctrines could not be questioned. She reported me to the Mother Superior who only reprimanded me and reiterated that the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church were unquestionable.

At the time, I was the only one not from a Polish family and they were so put out with me that I was immediately put into a locked room in solitary confinement for two weeks because they feared my uneasiness would influence the other sisters. What they did not understand was that I loved all of them so much but this just wasn't the life I was searching for.

No one can understand the mental anguish and confusion that had a hold on my mind and soul during those two weeks of confinement. But through it all, even though I didn't realize it, Jesus was with me leading me into greater heights of understanding. Without the real knowledge that Jesus was God, I began to ask for his help in my dilemma. For two weeks I talked to no one, or was allowed out of the room, but I was determined I wanted out. Surely God had not forsaken me.

One day without warning they came to my room and said permission had been granted for me to leave the order. Praise God! I realized for the first time that God could hear and answer my prayers directly.

At this time I was twenty years old, but my new found freedom was an unusual experience. When I removed my complete habit including the rosary from around my waist, it seemed as if a great weight had been lifted. No longer did I need prayer beads to touch God. They gave me civilian clothes to wear and I took a taxi to catch a train bound for Indianapolis, Indiana. I was facing the world on my own for the first time, and I'll never forget the morning I left the convent as long as I live.

My family behind me and the church against me, I felt all alone. But somehow, I know now that Jesus was leading and guiding me down the right road. I was hired by Indiana Bell Telephone Company in 1954 and in March of 1955 I met my husband and was married in 1959. After six children later, I realized that the deep yearning in my soul remained.

One night I attended Calvary Tabernacle, pastored by Brother Nathaniel Urshan in Indianapolis. The message was soul stirring, and seemed aimed right at me. When the invitation was given, I went to the altar. Suddenly all the emotion that I had kept bottled up inside me all these years came pouring out before God. I truly began to talk to God on Personal basis. This was what I had been searching for, for so many years. No longer did I need a priest to talk to God for me. I could approach the throne of grace for myself. I repented of my sins that night and a truly wonderful experience became a part of my life. I received the gift of the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in other tongues just like they did in the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter of the book of Acts. I begin to study the book of Acts with a new inspiration of the spirit.

I found that no one was ever baptized in the titles Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. But the early Christians were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. I was baptized as soon as possible. Years have come and gone since I first found Jesus at the altar. All the questions have been answered as I studied and searched God's word for myself. There is nothing that can explain how I felt. Truly God can give you "THE PEACE THAT PASSETH ALL UNDERSTANDING."

Sister Medlin has been a faithful member of Fountain View Pentecostal Church in Humble, Texas for many years. As her pastor I have found her life and testimony to be an inspiration to many searching for God.

Since this tract was published Sis. Medlin has went home to be with Lord and receive her reward. She died an Apostolic Pentecostal and her testimony continues to inspire and bless many souls. We pray that you will obey the same plan of salvation that Sis. Angela obeyed. That plan of salvation is found in John 3:5 and Acts 2:38. Please read it in your bible and obey what you read. May God bless you.



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